IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A household appliance ~~having~~ comprising at least one sensor for detecting at least one operating parameter of the household appliance, a memory connected permanently to the sensor for periodically recording the value of the operating parameter detected by the sensor and an interface for reading out the content of the memory.

11. (Previously Presented) The household appliance according to claim 10, wherein the first interface includes an interface to a data network, especially to a telephone network.

12. (Previously Presented) The household appliance according to claim 10, wherein the data network includes a telephone network.

13. (Previously Presented) The household appliance according to claim 10, wherein the first interface includes a cordless interface.

14. (Previously Presented) The household appliance according to claim 10, wherein the household appliance includes a housing and the memory is built in the housing.

15. (Previously Presented) The household appliance according to claim 10, wherein the household appliance includes at least one of a refrigerating device, a dishwasher, and a washing machine.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for determining a cause of failure on a household appliance, the method comprising the following acts:
periodically detecting at least one operating parameter of the household appliance and recording the detected value in a memory at least during normal operation of the household appliance;
reading out the memory in the case of a fault;
tracing the cause of the fault from the parameter values which have been read out.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, further comprising deleting the recorded parameter values after a predetermined storage time and ~~the~~ overwrites released memory space ~~is overwritten~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim16, wherein the recorded parameter values are ~~decimated~~ depleted after a first predetermined storage time and deleted after a second predetermined storage time.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising transferring the recorded parameter values from the household appliance to a separate device and performing the act of tracing the cause of the fault at the separate device.

20. (New) A household appliance comprising at least one sensor for detecting at least one operating parameter of the household appliance, a memory connected permanently to the sensor for periodically recording the value of the operating parameter detected by the sensor, an interface for reading out the content of the memory, and a remote service device in selective operative communication with the interface for use by a service designate for diagnosing problems with the appliance.

21. (New) A method for determining a cause of failure on a household appliance, the method comprising the following acts:

periodically detecting at least one operating parameter of the household appliance and recording at least one detected value in a memory within the appliance at least during normal operation of the household appliance;

reading out the memory in the case of a fault using an interface within the appliance;

communicating with a remote diagnostic device in selective operative communication with the interface for use by a service designate for diagnosing problems with the appliance; and

determining the cause of the failure using the parameter values which have been obtained from the appliance using the remote service device.